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USDA PROGRAMS OF INTEREST TO AMERICAN INDIANS



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For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office
Washington, D.C. 20402

Stock No. 001-000-03448-1

Revised - October 1976

INTRODUCTION

As American Indians increasingly determine the course of their own development, they are looking to all Federal agencies for services. Recognizing this movement, the Department of Agriculture has established an Indian Desk (1) to coordinate the Department's assistance to Indians, and (2) to bring available programs to the attention of Indian people. This booklet should contribute to the accomplishment of this second objective.

The Indian Land Acquisition Loan Program in the Farmers Home Administration and the Indian Agricultural Extension Contract Program in Extension Service are programs which are designed for the specific use of Indian people. Beyond these programs, USDA benefits are available to all citizens without regard to race, color, or national origin.

Inquiries should be directed to the:

Indian Desk
Office of Equal Opportunity
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C. 20250
Telephone: (202) 447-5453

The following is an enumeration of the Department's program agencies with a short statement of the purpose of each. Details of benefits are contained in the description of each program.

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS)

The Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service is responsible for a wide variety of action programs of the Department in its relations with the farmer and the agricultural economy. Its programs are in the general field of production adjustment, conservation assistance, price, farm income, and market stabilization. Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation (ASC) committees at the State and county levels carry out ASCS programs requiring direct dealings at the farm level.

Extension Service (ES)

The Cooperative Extension Service is the field educational arm of the Department of Agriculture. In nearly all counties in the United States, State Cooperative Extension workers conduct educational programs to help families learn about and apply new research findings and technological developments to the everyday problems of living and making a living. The major areas included in the educational efforts are efficient production and marketing of agricultural products; improved family living, including nutrition; 4-H youth development; and rural development.

Farmer Cooperative Service (FCS)

Farmer Cooperative Service conducts economic research to help farmers market their products, purchase supplies, and obtain related business services. Assistance from FCS in the form of research, counseling, and technical advice is also available to groups of farmers and other rural residents interested in forming cooperatives.

Farmers Home Administration (FmHA)

The Farmers Home Administration provides vital financial assistance to individuals, groups, communities, and corporations, as well as to Indian tribal groups and corporations. The agency's loan authorities provide a supplemental source of credit augmenting the efforts of private lenders rather than competing with them. Loans are made to those who cannot obtain sufficient credit at reasonable rates and terms from other sources. Loans on owned or leased land held in trust or restricted status are subject to applicable tribal or Department of Interior regulations.

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC)

The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation provides farmers with all-risk insurance that repays crop production costs lost because of bad weather, insects, disease, and other unavoidable natural causes. This aids the rural economy during those years when drought or other natural disasters cut crop yields and leave farmers with a short crop - or possibly even no crop at all - for sale purposes.

Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)

The Food and Nutrition Service administers the Food Stamp Program, the Food Distribution Program, the Child Nutrition Programs, and the Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). The Food Stamp and Food Distribution Programs help provide food for poor families. The Child Nutrition Programs help to feed children in public schools, child-care centers, and summer programs. The WIC program provides nutritious food supplements to eligible pregnant and nursing women as well as to children who are determined to be at "nutritional risk."

Forest Service (FS)

The Forest Service is responsible for managing and protecting the nation's 154 National Forests, conducting forestry research, and providing assistance to State and private forest landowners across the country. Assistance is available for improving the management for production of privately owned forest land. Permits granting special privileges for use of National Forest lands may also be obtained. The Forest Service also sponsors the Job Corps and Youth Conservation Corps, both of which are work and training programs for young peo-

ple, and the Senior Community Service Employment Program, a training program for low-income people who are at least 55 years of age.

Rural Development Service (RDS)

An important resource unit within USDA is the Rural Development Service. RDS coordinates a nationwide rural development program using the services of Federal agencies in cooperation with State and local rural development programs. RDS seeks to work out arrangements and procedures that will result in the better delivery of Federal program resources to rural communities and areas. Indian tribes and communities can obtain rural development advisory assistance, program and planning review assistance, and similar services from RDS. In addition, RDS administers the Federal Assistance Programs Retrieval System (FAPRS), a computer operation which scans a Federal program bank and provides a printout of those programs which fit into the particular category of assistance sought by the applicant. While RDS does not operate programs of loans or other financial assistance, it can provide information and technical assistance to aid Indians in gaining access to program sources.

Rural Electrification Administration (REA)

The Rural Electrification Administration makes loans to qualified borrowers, with preference to coöperatives and public bodies including Indian tribes, in order to finance construction of electric facilities which provide initial and continued adequate service to persons in rural areas. REA also makes loans to commercial and nonprofit enterprises, as well as to public bodies, including Indian tribes, for the improvement and extension of rural telephone service.

Soil Conservation Service (SCS)

The Soil Conservation Service gives technical help in soil and water conservation to land owners and operators, organizations, and city, county and State governments, through nearly 3,000 local soil and water conservation districts. Technical and financial aid is provided for watershed protection and flood prevention, and for resource conservation and development. Natural resource information is available to land use officials for planning and maintaining housing, schools, water supply, highways, and recreation facilities.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS RETRIEVAL SYSTEM (FAPRS)

Rural Development Service

Assistance Available

The Federal Assistance Programs Retrieval System (FAPRS) is a quick and inexpensive computer operation which can scan a bank of over 600 Federal programs and provide a printout of those which fit in the particular category of assistance sought by the applicant. The applicant needs no knowledge of computers to use the FAPRS service. The computer is programmed to ask for the basic information it needs to process an inquiry. The resultant printout is keyed to the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance. This facilitates the additional research required to identify the programs best fitted to a specific need, and provides the essential information needed to initiate the application procedure.

How to Apply

To use FAPRS in person, contact your State Extension Director for the location of the nearest FAPRS terminal. To use FAPRS through letters and the telephone, contact the USDA Indian Desk (address below).

For More Information

Supervisor, Indian Desk, Office of Equal Opportunity,
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.
20250. Telephone: (202) 447-5453.

OR

FAPRS, Rural Development Service, U.S. Department of
Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202)
447-9296.

AGRICULTURE



Hopi Shálako Mana, the Corn Maid.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND MARKETING PROGRAM

Extension Service

Assistance Available

Through grants made to land-grant institutions, State and county Extension Service personnel provide educational and technical assistance to farmers, producers, and marketing firms in the application of the latest agricultural research emanating from State and Federal research centers.

How to Apply

Programs of State and county Extension Services are available to the general public. For information, contact the county Extension Service office, the State Extension Director at the State land-grant institution, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director of Information, Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-6283.

BEEKEEPER INDEMNITY PROGRAM

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Payments are available to beekeepers whose bees are damaged as a result of pesticides. All pesticides involved must be registered and approved for use by the Federal Government. To be eligible for payment the beekeeper must have duly registered the bees in question and must prove the loss of bees and the lack of fault on his or her part.

How to Apply

Contact the local ASCS office, usually located in the county seat, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Program Operations Division, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-3677.

CROP INSURANCE PROGRAM

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation

Assistance Available

All-risk insurance is available to individual farmers and tribal farming enterprises in over 1,400 agricultural counties in 39 states. Crops which are insured include the following:

Apples, barley, beans, citrus, corn, cotton, flax, grain sorghum, grapes, oats, peaches, peanuts, peas, raisins, rice, soybeans, sugarbeets, sugarcane, sunflowers, tobacco and wheat.

The corporation also insures the investment in some crops under a combined crop protection plan in several counties in North Dakota. The insurance is voluntary, and the farmer pays a premium for his or her protection. Producers are not indemnified for losses resulting from negligence or failure to observe good farming practices.

Federal Crop insurance policies are widely used by lending institutions as crop loans collateral. Collateral Assignments, by making indemnity checks payable jointly to lender and borrower, guarantee loan repayments when crops are damaged or lost to drought, bad weather, insects or plant disease. A Collateral Assignment can also help a farmer expand farming operations and modernize farm equipment.

How to Apply

Any owner or operator of farmland, who has an insurable interest in a crop in a county where insurance is offered on that crop, is eligible unless the land is not classified for insurance purposes. Interested producers should contact the FCIC office serving their State, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Manager, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-6795.

EMERGENCY LIVESTOCK FEED PROGRAM

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Commodity Credit Corporation stocks of feed grains, when available, may be provided at reduced prices, or, in some financial situations, may be donated to livestock and dairy owners.

Livestock and dairy farmers who are without adequate financial means to provide sufficient feed for livestock or dairy herds, after allowances have been determined for necessary living expenses, are eligible to apply. Need is usually brought about by drought, flood, hurricane, blizzard, or other natural disasters.

How to Apply

The program itself may only be authorized (1) upon recommendation of the State and county Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation (ASC) committees after appropriate review of local conditions, and (2) upon receipt of a certification of need from the Governor of the State in which the emergency has occurred. Contact the local ASCS office, usually located in the county seat, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Environmental Quality and Land Use Division,
Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service,
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.
20250. Telephone: (202) 447-5295.

FARM EMERGENCY LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be requested to offset agricultural damages sustained by eligible borrowers which were not compensated by insurance or otherwise. Funds may be used to restore or replace farm dwellings, service buildings, farm machinery and equipment which were lost or damaged. These loans may also be requested to offset losses of growing crops and livestock enterprises.

Emergency loans will be made after the occurrence of a natural disaster such as a flood, drought, hurricane, tornado, blizzard, electrical storm, or heavy snow fall which has resulted in the area being declared eligible for farm emergency loan assistance by the President or Secretary of Agriculture.

Loans are scheduled for repayment within 20 years for real estate restoration except farm dwellings, which can be repaid over 33 years. Loans made for repair or replacement of farm machinery, equipment, and breeding livestock may be repaid over periods not exceeding 7 years or the useful life of such items. Loans for crops or livestock production losses may be scheduled over a maximum period of 5 years or a shorter time consistent with the borrower's ability to pay.

These loans will be adequately secured to protect the U.S. Government during the repayment period. Security may include a mortgage on the borrower's farm, or farm machinery and equipment, or crops and livestock, depending upon the nature of the loan. Loans on land held in trust or restricted status are subject to applicable tribal or Department of Interior regulations.

How to Apply

Applicants must be an established individual farm

operator, partnership, or corporation. If a partnership or corporation, then the applicant must be primarily engaged in farming or ranching and the operation must be managed by a partner or stockholder. Individuals, principal partners, and principal stockholders must be citizens and operate in the area where farm emergency loans have been authorized. Applicants must possess the ability, experience, and character needed to carry out the obligations required in connection with the loan and possess the legal capacity to contract for the loan. Applicants should contact the county FmHA office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

FARM OPERATING AND YOUTH LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used (1) to buy farm equipment, livestock, poultry, furbearing and other animals, fish and bees (2) to purchase animals, birds, fish, tools, equipment, facilities, furnishings, inventories, and supplies needed for a business or recreational enterprise to be operated in connection with the farming operation (3) to provide money for expenses such as feed and fertilizer, pesticides, supplies, and payment of cash rent (4) to acquire memberships in farm or nonfarm purchasing, marketing, or service type cooperative associations (5) to provide for family subsistence needs, and refinance debts (6) to purchase milk base, grazing permits or licenses, and franchises.

The maximum FmHA operating loan is \$50,000. Loans may be repaid over periods up to 7 years or the useful life of the security, whichever is less.

How to Apply

Indians who are of legal age and who have a farm background and either training or farm experience to assure reasonable prospects of success in the proposed operations are eligible. Applicants must personally manage and operate not larger than the equivalent of a family farm.

Rural Indian youths who are not of legal age do not need to meet the farm background and training or experience tests in order to receive youth loans. However, recipients of youth loans must be part of an organized group and the youth loan must be approved by the group supervisor.

Applicants should contact the county FmHA office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

FARM OWNERSHIP LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used to buy or enlarge farms, including land for recreation or other nonfarm enterprises. Such farms cannot be or become larger than a family farm. Loans also may be used (1) to construct or repair essential but modest farm dwelling and service buildings, including facilities and structures for nonfarm enterprises (2) to develop domestic water and sewage systems (3) to provide land and water development (4) to establish approved forestry practices (5) to refinance debts.

Terms may not exceed 40 years. The maximum FmHA farm real estate loan is \$100,000; the total real estate debt allowed against the security is \$225,000 or the market value of the farm, whichever is less. In real estate loans to Indians which will be secured by land in trust or restricted status, the mortgage must be reviewed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

How to Apply

Citizens of legal age who have sufficient farm experience or training to assure reasonable prospects of success in the proposed farming operation and who must rely on farm income to have a reasonable standard of living may apply. Applicants must possess the character, industry, and ability to carry out the farming or nonfarm enterprise, and personally manage and operate the farm. Applicants should contact the county FmHA office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

FARM STORAGE AND DRYING EQUIPMENT LOAN PROGRAM

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Loans are available for the purchase of storage structures and drying equipment.

To qualify for loans, an owner, landlord, tenant, or sharecropper must meet the need eligibility requirements for storing or conditioning one or more of the following commodities: barley, corn, grain sorghum, oats, rye, wheat, soybeans, sunflower seed, rice, dry edible beans, flaxseed, or peanuts. Contact the ASCS county office concerning terms and conditions.

How to Apply

Contact the local ASCS office, usually located in the county seat, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director; Grains, Oilseeds and Cotton Division;
Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service;
U.S. Department of Agriculture; Washington, D.C.
20250. Telephone: (202) 447-7954.

4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Extension Service

Assistance Available

State and county Extension Service personnel utilize grants made to land-grant institutions to provide educational and technical assistance to 4-H youth in the areas of leadership development and career guidance. Activities include work projects, demonstration projects, camping, and achievement programs. Project areas include ecology and natural resources, health, the arts, animals and poultry, and plants and crops.

How to Apply

Programs of State and county Extension Services are available to the general public. For information contact the county Extension Service office, the State Extension Director at the State land-grant institution, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director of Information, Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-6283.

GRAZING ASSOCIATION LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used to purchase land leases, permits, rights, and other evidence of control of land to be shifted to the development of a local grazing association's grazing facilities. Development may include housing for managers and caretakers, farms and corrals, fencing and other pasture improvements, and fees for water rights.

Terms may neither exceed 40 years, nor the length of the lease, nor the statutory limitation of the local grazing association's borrowing authority. The maximum loan cannot exceed the present market value of the land.

Recipients of grazing association loans are required to sign Form FmHA 400-4, "Nondiscrimination Agreement," before loan closing.

All loans will be secured in a manner which will adequately protect the Government during the repayment period. A mortgage will be taken on all interests held by the local grazing association in land, easements, rights-of-way, water rights, and similar property rights used, or planned for use, by the local grazing association.

How to Apply

Nonprofit associations composed primarily of farmers and ranchers with family-sized operations are eligible to apply for a grazing association loan. Further criteria for eligibility stipulate that the farmer and rancher association members (1) do not have adequate individually owned or controlled grazing lands (2) need additional land to produce income to have an adequate standard of living (3) are unable to provide such lands on their own. Indians on reservations may organize grazing associations and qualify for assistance.

Applicants should contact the county FmHA office or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

INDIAN ACUTE DISTRESS DONATION PROGRAM

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Commodity Credit Corporation-owned feed grains, when available, may be donated to Indian tribes for livestock feeding following a decision by the Secretary of Agriculture. This decision is based on the chronic acute distress of the needy members of an Indian tribe due to severe drought, flood, or other catastrophe.

How to Apply

The tribe applies to their Bureau of Indian Affairs agency office. The agency forwards the application and recommendations through the area office to the Bureau of Indian Affairs Commissioner. He refers it to the Secretary of Agriculture who may consult with the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service before making a final decision to release the feed grains.

For More Information

Director, Environmental Quality and Land Use Division,
Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service,
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.
20250. Telephone: (202) 447-5295.

INDIAN AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION CONTRACT PROGRAM

Extension Service

Assistance Available

Land-grant universities contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to provide advice to Indian families and youth on farming, ranching, family and home economics, consumer education, and youth development.

How to Apply

The program is available in the following States: Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Tribal leaders; members of the State Extension Service; Extension Service, USDA; and BIA representatives hold annual evaluation and contract renegotiation meetings to develop projects. Projects must be submitted to the BIA area office 30 days prior to the annual renewal date (July 1).

For More Information

Director of Information, Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-6288.

IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used (1) to install drainage facilities in areas too wet for agricultural production (2) to install, rehabilitate, or enlarge irrigation, soil conservation, and water control facilities (3) to purchase specialized equipment. Trust or restricted land may be included in project plans.

These loans may be made for a period of 40 years if secured by real estate or 7 years if secured by equipment.

How to Apply

An association of Indian farmers or rural residents with the legal authority to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facility or service may apply by contacting the county FmHa office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

MILK INDEMNITY PAYMENTS PROGRAM

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Fair market value is paid for milk unable to be marketed because of contamination by pesticide residue. No payment may be made to any dairy farmer or manufacturer whose milk or dairy product was removed from the market as a result of his or her willful failure to follow procedures for using the pesticide as prescribed by the Federal Government. Milk must have been removed from the market by a public agency or milk handler in order for an applicant to be eligible to apply for milk indemnity payments.

How to Apply

Contact the local ASCS office, usually located in the county seat, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Program Operations Division, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-5295.

PRICE SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Price supports by ASCS enable farmers to market products in an orderly manner. Eligible commodities include wheat, corn, oats, grain sorghum, rice, rye, barley, soybeans, honey, upland cotton, extra long staple cotton, peanuts, milk, wool, mohair, tung nuts, crude pine gum, and tobacco.

Payments also are available to producers having wheat, feed grains or upland cotton allotments who are prevented from planting or who suffer a loss because of low crop yields as a result of a natural disaster.

An owner, landlord, tenant, or sharecropper on a farm with a history of producing eligible commodities and who meets program requirements may apply for support.

How to Apply

Contact the local ASCS office, usually located in the county seat, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director; Grains, Oilseeds and Cotton Division;
Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service;
U.S. Department of Agriculture; Washington, D.C.
20250. Telephone: (202) 447-7954.

RANGE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Forest Service

Assistance Available

Grazing privileges on National Forest land are provided to rural families (mainly small livestock operators) to supplement their yearlong supply of forage for cattle. Renewable annual permits are granted for which fees are charged. Technical assistance on proper grazing use of privately owned forest land is also available through cooperation between State agencies and the Forest Service.

How to Apply

Contact the Forest Supervisor of the National Forest or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Staff of Range Management, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rosslyn, Virginia 22209. Telephone: (703) 235-8139.

RECREATION LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used (1) to develop land and water resources for outdoor recreation, including construction or improvement of modest yet essential buildings and facilities (2) to purchase and install equipment and fixtures essential to the enterprise (3) to refinance secured and unsecured debts.

Loans may be scheduled for repayment over a period not to exceed 40 years. The maximum FmHA farm real estate loan is \$100,000. The total real estate debt allowable against the security is \$225,000 or the market value of the security, whichever is less.

Recipients of recreation loans are required to sign Form FmHA 400-4, "Nondiscrimination Agreement," before loan closing.

How to Apply

The applicant must possess the industry and training or experience to carry out the proposed operation. The applicant must be an individual engaged in farming at the time he or she applies for a loan and must manage and operate the recreation enterprise. The applicant must be unable to obtain sufficient credit elsewhere. A tenant must have a satisfactory written lease.

Applicants should contact the county FmHA office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

SOIL AND WATER LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used to pay for materials, supplies, equipment, and services related to land and water development, use, and conservation. Eligible loan purposes include such items as terraces, dikes, reservoirs, ponds, tanks and cisterns; wells, pipelines, pumping and irrigation equipment; ditches and canals for irrigation and drainage; waterways, erosion control, and the purchase of water stock or membership in an incorporated users association.

Terms are not to exceed 40 years. The maximum FmHA farm real estate loan is \$100,000. The total real estate debt allowable against the security is \$225,000 or the market value of the security, whichever is less.

How to Apply

Farm operators or owners, partnerships or domestic corporations engaged in farming are eligible. Applicants must be citizens of legal age, possess the industry and ability to carry out the proposed operations, and plan to improve a farm which is recognized as a farm rather than a rural residence. For a tenant, a satisfactory written lease must be available.

All interested should contact the county FmHA office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

SOIL SURVEY PROGRAM

Soil Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Published soil surveys of counties or other comparably sized areas are available for use by interested agencies, organizations, and individuals.

How to Apply

Contact the county SCS office, Extension Service, State agricultural experiment station, the nearest Agricultural Service Center, Senators, or the local Congressman.

For More Information

Director of Information, Soil Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-4543.

SPECIAL LAND USE PROGRAM

Forest Service

Assistance Available

Special Use Permits are issued to use National Forest lands for specific purposes under specific conditions. A Special Use Permit is required for any permanent occupancy of National Forest land such as for pastures, fences, water developments, resorts, and commercial buildings.

How to Apply

Any individual, corporation, association, municipality, or agency of local or State government is eligible for consideration for Special Use Permits. Application for permits may be made orally, by letter, by bid in response to a prospectus, by form 2700-3, or by some other specifically prescribed form. Oral applications which lead to a permit should be confirmed in writing; form 2700-3 is preferred for application. Contact the local Forest Service office or the Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Staff of Recreation, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-2196.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Soil Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Help is provided through SCS field offices and local conservation districts to farm owners and operators in the planning and application of conservation practices to conserve, improve and develop soil, water, and related resources.

How to Apply

Contact the county SCS office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director of Information, Soil Conservation Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-4543.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO COOPERATIVES PROGRAM

Farmer Cooperative Service

Assistance Available

Farmers can use the cooperative form of business (1) to jointly purchase production supplies (2) to process and market products (3) to perform related services. Technical assistance, research, education, and counseling services are available to rural and farmer cooperatives, and to groups of farmers and other rural residents interested in forming a cooperative.

How to Apply

Requests for technical assistance by a cooperative should be a resolution from a cooperative board of directors. Requests for assistance in forming a co-op should be made by interested producers or rural residents.

Write to the Administrator, Farmer Cooperative Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-8870.

For More Information

Senior Cooperative Development Officer, Farmer Cooperative Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-8685.

UPLAND COTTON PROGRAM

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

Assistance Available

The upland cotton program is designed to enable farmers to produce for the market-place. The program provides for loans and established (or target) prices. A bonus payment equal to 30 percent of the regular payment rate is available to eligible producers on farms qualifying under special small farm provisions.

Payments also are provided to cover natural disaster situations.

An owner, landlord, tenant, or sharecropper on a farm with a history of producing cotton and which meets program requirements is eligible to apply for payments.

How to Apply

Contact the local ASCS office, usually located in the county seat, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director; Grains, Oilseeds and Cotton Division;
Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service;
U.S. Department of Agriculture; Washington, D.C.
20250. Telephone: (202) 447-7954.

WOOL AND MOHAIR PAYMENTS PROGRAM

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Payments are made to support the returns to producers from wool and mohair.

To be eligible to apply for wool or mohair payments, a person must have owned sheep, lambs, or angora goats for at least 30 days during the marketing year, and must have sold wool or mohair during the marketing year.

How to Apply

Contact the local ASCS office, usually located in the county seat, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Program Operations Division, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-3677.

COMMUNITIES



Design from a Nez Percé woven bag.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used to finance the acquisition, construction, conversion, enlargement, repair, modernization, and pollution abatement or control of rural businesses and industries.

These loans are made by a private lender and guaranteed by FmHA; interest rates are negotiated by the borrower and the lender. The repayment period varies depending upon the purpose of the loan but cannot exceed 30 years in any case.

How to Apply

Those eligible for the Business and Industrial Loan Program include an individual, cooperative, corporation, partnership, Indian tribe on a State or Federal reservation or other recognized tribal group, a municipality, county, or other political subdivision of a State.

Applicants should contact the county FmHA office or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Extension Service

Assistance Available

Through grants made to land-grant institutions, State and county Extension Service personnel provide educational and technical assistance to community leaders and local officials for the enhancement of economic, social and cultural development of the community including public services and facilities, employment and income, housing, health, and planning and organizational structures. Examples of assistance include educational and informational work for the development of community centers, medical services centers, vocational education, water and waste disposal systems, business and industrial enterprises, and local government efficiency. The emphasis is on community consideration and group decision-making.

How to Apply

State and county Extension Service programs are available to the general public. For information, contact the county Extension Service office, the State Extension Director at the State land-grant institution, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director of Information, Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-6283.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used to construct, enlarge, extend, or otherwise improve community water and waste disposal systems, solid waste disposal facilities, and other essential community facilities, including payment of fees and related expenses.

Loan repayment may be scheduled over periods up to 40 years or the statutory limitations of the borrower. Recipients of community facilities loans are required to sign Form FmHA 400-4, "Nondiscrimination Agreement," before loan closing.

How to Apply

Public bodies, nonprofit corporations, special purpose districts, and Indian tribes and tribal corporations who are not able to obtain needed credit at reasonable rates and terms from other sources are eligible to apply by contacting the county FmHA office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

HOMEMAKERS AND YOUTH PROGRAM

Extension Service

Assistance Available

Through grants made to land-grant institutions, State and county Extension Service personnel provide educational and technical assistance to homemakers and youth in the areas of food and nutrition, home management, family economics, child development, and parent education.

How to Apply

Programs of State and county Extension Services are available to the general public. For information, contact the county Extension Service office, the State Extension Director at the State land-grant institution, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director of Information, Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-6283.

INDIAN LAND ACQUISITION LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used to buy land or interest in lands within an Indian reservation or an Alaskan Indian community. Funds may also be used to pay expenses incidental to the land purchase including the cost of appraisal, title and legal services, surveys, and loan closing.

All loans will be secured in a manner that will adequately protect the U. S. Government during the repayment period. A first mortgage on the land and/or assignments of tribal income are required as security.

Repayment period may not exceed 40 years or the statutory limit on a tribe's borrowing authority.

How to Apply

Indian tribes and Alaskan Indian communities are eligible if they (1) are recognized by the Secretary of the Interior (2) are without adequate uncommitted funds to acquire needed land within the reservation (3) cannot obtain sufficient credit at reasonable rates and terms from other sources.

Applicants should contact the county FmHA office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Funds may be used to finance industrial sites that will result in development of private business enterprises. Costs that may be paid from grant funds include the acquisition and development of land and the construction of buildings, plants, equipment, access streets and roads, parking areas, utility and service extensions, refinancing and fees.

Grant funds may be used jointly with FmHA loan funds and funds furnished by the applicant.

How to Apply

Eligibility is limited to public bodies such as Indian tribes, incorporated towns and villages, boroughs, townships, counties, States, authorities, and districts.

Forms are available from and may be filed with any FmHA office.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION LOAN PROGRAM

Rural Electrification Administration

Assistance Available

Long-term loans are available to Indian tribes, rural electric cooperatives, public utility districts, power companies, municipalities, and other qualified power suppliers for the purpose of providing central station electric service on a continuing basis in rural areas. "Rural area" is defined as any area of the United States which is not included within the boundaries of a community with a population in excess of 1,500 inhabitants.

Most REA loans bear interest at a standard rate. A special lower rate is available for electric borrowers who reside in particularly isolated areas or who have experienced extenuating circumstances or extreme hardship.

How to apply

A resolution by the board of directors of the borrowing organization should be submitted to the Administrator, Rural Electrification Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

For More Information

Director, Information Services Division, Rural Electrification Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-5606.

RURAL TELEPHONE LOAN PROGRAM

Rural Electrification Administration

Assistance Available

Long-term loans are available to qualified organizations for financing the extension and improvement of telephone service in rural areas. "Rural area" is defined as any area of the United States which is not included within the boundaries of a community with a population in excess of 1,500 inhabitants.

How to Apply

The following qualifying organizations should apply to the Administrator, Rural Electrification Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250: (1) telephone companies or cooperatives (2) nonprofit, limited dividend, mutual associations (3) public bodies (4) Indian tribes.

For More Information

Director, Information Services Division, Rural Electrification Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-5606.

RURAL TELEPHONE BANK LOAN PROGRAM

Rural Telephone Bank

Assistance Available

Supplemental long-term loans are available for rural telephone systems eligible for financing from REA. Bank ownership is shared by the Federal Government with the bank's borrowers. Loans bear interest at the bank's cost of money rate.

How to Apply

Corporations, public bodies, and Indian tribes are eligible to borrow from the Rural Telephone Bank if: (1) they have received a telephone loan or loan commitment from the Rural Electrification Administration, or (2) they have been certified by the Administrator as qualified to receive such a loan. Apply to the Administrator, Rural Electrification Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

For More Information

Director, Information Services Division, Rural Electrification Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-5606.

SENIOR COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Forest Service

Assistance Available

Opportunities for work experience and training are provided to elderly disadvantaged persons primarily in rural areas. Men and women must be at least 55 years of age and meet the low-income eligibility guidelines established by the Manpower Administration, Department of Labor.

How to Apply

Contact the local Employment Service office, Forest Service office or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Staff of Manpower and Youth Conservation Programs, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-7783.

WATER AND SEWER GRANT PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Grants may be provided to construct, enlarge, extend or improve water, sewer and solid waste disposal systems. For water and waste disposal systems, grants are available for up to 50 per cent of project development costs. These grants will be made on projects that serve the most financially needy communities in order to reduce family user rates to a reasonable level.

How to Apply

Applicants should contact the county FmHA office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

CONSERVATION



Tlingit representation of the front and both sides of an animal. This design is from a goat-hair garment woven on a cedar-bark base; such garments were worn by wealthy individuals and the designs usually indicated their genealogical background.

AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Farmers, ranchers, and woodland owners are assisted through cost-sharing in carrying out approved soil and water conservation and pollution abatement practices on eligible land.

Any owner, landlord, tenant, sharecropper, or associated group on a farm or ranch who produces agricultural commodities is eligible to apply for cost-sharing assistance.

How to Apply

Contact the local ASCS office, usually located in the county seat, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Environmental Quality and Land Use Division,
Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service,
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.
20250. Telephone: (202) 447-5295.

COOPERATIVE FOREST MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Forest Service

Assistance Available

Technical assistance is available for establishing and improving timber production, timber management and timber protection of State and private forest lands.

How to Apply

Individuals or groups needing technical assistance should apply through the State forestry agency, or through the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Staff of Cooperative Forestry, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-8921.

EMERGENCY CONSERVATION MEASURES PROGRAM

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Cost-sharing assistance is available to enable farmers to perform emergency conservation measures to control soil erosion or to rehabilitate farmlands damaged by wind erosion, floods, hurricanes, or other natural disasters.

An owner, landlord, tenant, sharecropper, or associated group on a farm or ranch in a declared disaster area is eligible to apply.

How to Apply

Contact the local ASCS office, usually located in the county seat, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Environmental Quality and Land Use Division,
Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service,
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.
20250. Telephone: (202) 447-5295.

FOREST INSECT AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Forest Service

Assistance Available

Technical assistance is available for detecting, evaluating, preventing, and suppressing outbreaks of forest insects and diseases on Federal, State, and private forest lands. Cost-sharing assistance is also available for approved prevention and suppression projects on all forest lands when such action is in the public interest.

How to Apply

Contact the Forest Supervisor of the National Forest nearest the areas needing assistance, or your State forestry agency to arrange for technical assistance. Applicants will be directed to the closest appropriate agency providing technical assistance.

For More Information

Staff of Forest Insect and Disease Management, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (703) 235-1560.

FORESTRY INCENTIVES PROGRAM

Forest Service

Assistance Available

Cost-sharing is provided to private forest land-owners, including Indian tribes, for tree-planting and timber stand improvement. To qualify, a landowner must (1) be a private forest landowner (2) own a tract of land no larger than 500 acres (3) own land that is suitable for forestation and timber stand improvement (4) own land capable of producing industrial wood crops which meet minimum productivity standards (5) as current owner, have had no commercial timber harvest on the land within the previous 5 years.

How to Apply

Contact the county ASCS office, local State forestry agency office or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Staff of Cooperative Forestry, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-8921.

Environmental Quality and Land Use Division, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-6221.

FREE USE TIMBER PROGRAM

Forest Service

Assistance Available

Free use of timber from the National Forests may be granted to residents of the area in which such forest is located. Use of such timber is for nonprofit ventures only. Timber may be used for firewood, fencing, building, and other domestic purposes. Residents outside the area where a National Forest is located are entitled to firewood after obtaining a "free use permit" from the nearest District Ranger's office.

How to Apply

Contact the Forest Supervisor of the National Forest, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Staff of Timber Management, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-7493.

GREAT PLAINS CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Soil Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Technical help and cost-sharing assistance are available under long-term contracts to individual farmers and ranchers in selected counties in the ten Great Plains States. . These States are as follows: Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wyoming. Services are given in planning and installing conservation practices to control wind and water erosion. These practices are agreed upon under contract by the farmer or rancher and the Department of Agriculture.

How to Apply

Contact the county SCS office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director of Information, Soil Conservation Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-4543.

JOB CORPS CIVILIAN CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Forest Service

Assistance Available

Both educational training and vocational training are provided to young men and women between the ages of 16 and 21 who need such training to gain meaningful employment.

How to Apply

Contact the local Employment Office or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director of Job Corps, Education and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, D.C. 20210. Telephone: (202) 376-6175.

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Soil Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Both technical assistance and financial assistance are available to help local people in initiating and carrying out long-range programs of resource conservation and development. RC&D assistance may be used (1) on reservation lands for public water-based recreation and fish and wildlife developments (2) on private lands owned or operated by American Indians for flood prevention, sedimentation and erosion control, farm irrigation, water quality management, and control and abatement of agriculture-related pollution.

How to Apply

Contact the county SCS office or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director of Information, Soil Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-4543.

RURAL COMMUNITY FIRE PROTECTION PROGRAM

Forest Service

Assistance Available

Cost-sharing (50-percent matching funds) is provided to rural areas and to communities under 10,000 population for organizing, training and equipping rural fire fighting forces. Unprotected or poorly protected communities receive priority.

How to Apply

Contact your State Forester or the local State Forestry office.

For More Information

Staff of Cooperative Fire Protection, Forest Service,
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.
20250. Telephone: (703) 235-8039.

RURAL CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT AND WATERSHED LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used to pay the local share of flood control dams, reservoirs, irrigation canals, easements, rights-of-way, and other items that will benefit and contribute to economic improvement or increased productivity of the area. Trust or restricted land may be included in project plans.

Interest rates are determined periodically and may be obtained from local FmHA offices. Resource conservation and development loans may be made up to \$250,000 and watershed loans up to \$5 million.

How to Apply

Agencies authorized under State laws, nonprofit corporations, and qualified Indian tribal groups may apply by contacting the county FmHA office, or nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM

7

Soil Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Conservation plans and technical and consultative assistance are available to individual American Indians operating land not under the administration of the Department of the Interior.

Through conservation districts, SCS gives technical help to landowners who want to change from one land use to another. SCS also helps farmers and ranchers work out a conservation plan for their land and assists in the application of conservation measures that require special skills or knowledge. Conservation measures such as terraces, grassed waterways, ponds, windbreaks, and stripcropping help hold down the soil, conserve water, protect crops and livestock, and promote agricultural economy.

How to Apply

Contact the county SCS office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director of Information, Soil Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-4543.

TIMBER SALES PROGRAM

Forest Service

Assistance Available

National forest timber is available for sale to interested parties. The local District Ranger may handle such transactions.

How to Apply

Contact the Forest Supervisor of the National Forest, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Staff of Timber Management, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-6893.

WATERSHED PROTECTION AND FLOOD PREVENTION PROGRAM

Soil Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Technical and financial assistance is available for planning and carrying out works of improvement to protect, develop, and utilize the land and water resources in small watersheds. Assistance is available to any State agency, county or group of counties, municipality, town or township, soil and water conservation district, flood prevention or flood control district, or any other nonprofit agency with authority under State law to carry out, maintain, and operate watershed works of improvement.

How to Apply

Contact the county SCS office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director of Information, Soil Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.
Telephone: (202) 447-4543.

YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS

Forest Service

Assistance Available

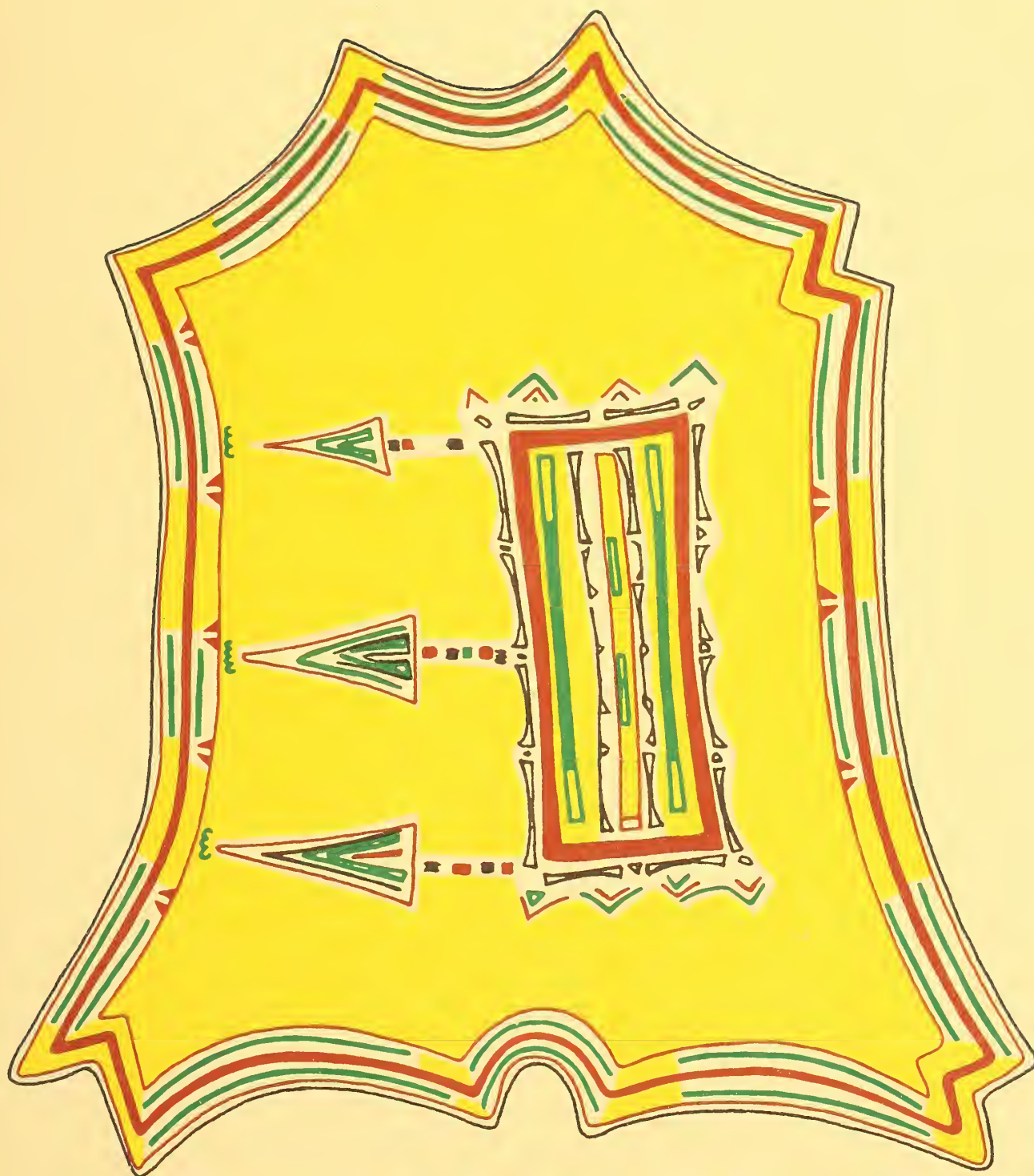
A program of summer employment is provided for young men and women to further the development of the natural resources of the United States. Applicants (1) must be ages 15 through 18 (2) must be permanent residents of the United States, its territories or possessions (3) must have no history of serious criminal or other anti-social behavior (4) must be physically qualified to participate fully in the various work and training projects of the program (5) must have, or be able to obtain, a work permit required under the laws of the State in which they will be working (6) must have a Social Security number.

How to Apply

Contact the school counselor or request an application form from: Youth Conservation Corps, Post Office Box 2975, Washington, D.C. 20013.

For More Information

Staff of Manpower and Youth Conservation Programs, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone (202) 447-7783.



"Box design" painted on buffalo hide by Arapaho women. The design represents the viscera and body proportions of a buffalo.

CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

Food and Nutrition Service

Assistance Available

- National School Lunch Program
- School Breakfast Program
- Summer Food Service Program
- Nonfood Assistance Program
- Special Milk Program
- Child-Care Food Program

Money and/or food are available to schools, child-care centers, camps, and other facilities to provide nutritious meals or milk for children. Free and reduced-price meals and free milk are available for children from low-income families.

How to Apply

Schools, child-care centers, camps, and other facilities for children should contact the State Department of Education, School Lunch Division, in the State Capitol. In some States, USDA directly administers the programs in private nonprofit schools and child-care institutions.

Children or their parents can apply for free and reduced-price meals by requesting application forms from the school principal.

For More Information

For programs in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont, contact the following: Regional Administrator, New England Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Northwest Park, No. 34 Third Avenue, Burlington, Massachusetts 01803. Telephone: (617) 223-0275.

For programs in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, District of

Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, contact the following: Regional Administrator, Mid-Atlantic Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 729 Alexander Road, Princeton, New Jersey 08549. Telephone: (609) 452-1212.

For programs in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee, contact the following: Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1100 Spring Street N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30309. Telephone: (404) 526-5131.

For programs in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, and Wisconsin, contact the following: Regional Administrator, Midwest Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 536 South Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois 60605. Telephone: (312) 353-6664.

For programs in Arkansas, Colorado, Louisiana, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming, contact the following: Regional Administrator, West Central Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1100 Commerce Street, Suite 5-D-22, Dallas, Texas 75242. Telephone: (214) 749-2877.

For programs in Alaska, Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, American Samoa, and the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands, contact the following: Regional Administrator, Western Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, 550 Kearney Street, Room 400, San Francisco, California 94108. Telephone: (415) 556-4950.

FAMILY FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Food and Nutrition Service

Assistance Available

Food Stamp Program

Food Distribution Program

Eligible low-income households can buy food stamps, the value of which is more than the purchase price. The stamps can be used instead of money to purchase food in participating grocery stores or to purchase meal services for the elderly.

If an Indian reservation, currently receiving commodities under the Food Distribution Program, chooses to implement the Food Stamp Program, then both the Food Distribution Program and the Food Stamp Program can be operated simultaneously while the reservation is converting to the Food Stamp Program. During this transition period, a household may not participate in both programs at the same time.

How to Apply

Reservations may request participation in the Food Stamp Program from the State Department of Welfare.

Once the Food Stamp Program is in operation, the head of a low-income household makes application to the local Department of Welfare, and provides information concerning income and expenses.

For More Information

For programs in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont, contact the following: Regional Administrator, New England Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Northwest Park, No. 34 Third Avenue, Burlington, Massachusetts 01803. Telephone: (617) 223-0275.

For programs in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, contact the following: Regional Administrator, Mid-Atlantic Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 729 Alexander Road, Princeton, New Jersey 08549. Telephone: (609) 452-1212.

For programs in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee, contact the following: Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1100 Spring Street N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30309. Telephone: (404) 526-5131.

For programs in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, and Wisconsin, contact the following: Regional Administrator, Midwest Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 536 South Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois 60605. Telephone: (312) 353-6664.

For programs in Arkansas, Colorado, Louisiana, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming, contact the following: Regional Administrator, West Central Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1100 Commerce Street, Suite 5-D-22, Dallas, Texas 75242. Telephone: (214) 749-2877.

For programs in Alaska, Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, American Samoa, and the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands, contact the following: Regional Administrator, Western Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 550 Kearney Street, Room 400, San Francisco, California 94108. Telephone: (415) 556-4950.

FOOD AND NUTRITION EDUCATION PROGRAM

Extension Service

Assistance Available

Through grants made to land-grant institutions, State and county Extension Service personnel provide educational and technical assistance in food and nutrition to families. The assistance includes meal planning, food buying, preparation, preservation, and safe storage of foods for human consumption.

In addition, a special program—the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP)—is offered in certain geographic areas to assist homemakers on a one-to-one basis. EFNEP aides help low-income families improve their diets through learning the importance of nutrition, food buying, preparation, preservation, and safe storage of foods for human consumption. In the 4-H EFNEP youth program, volunteers assist in areas contributing to the improvement of family diet and nutrition through educational programs for youth, and contributing to the personal development of disadvantaged urban youth.

How to Apply

State and county Extension Service programs are available to the general public. For information, contact the county Extension office, the State Extension Director at the State land-grant institution, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director of Information, Extension Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-6283.

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC)

Food and Nutrition Service

Assistance Available

Specified nutritious food supplements are available to eligible pregnant and nursing women, as well as to eligible infants and children up to 5 years of age who are determined to be at "nutritional risk" because of inadequate nutrition and inadequate income.

How to Apply

Funds are made available (1) to participating State health departments of comparable State agencies (2) to Indian tribes (3) to the Indian Health Service of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. These agencies then distribute funds to the eligible participating local agencies.

For More Information

For programs in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont, contact the following: Regional Administrator, New England Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Northwest Park, No. 34 Third Avenue, Burlington, Massachusetts 01803. Telephone: (617) 223-0275.

For programs in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, contact the following: Regional Administrator, Mid-Atlantic Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 729 Alexander Road, Princeton, New Jersey 08549. Telephone: (609) 452-1212.

For programs in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee, contact the following: Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1100 Spring Street N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30309. Telephone: (404) 526-5131.

For programs in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, and Wisconsin, contact the following: Regional Administrator, Midwest Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 536 South Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois 60605. Telephone: (312) 353-6664.

For programs in Arkansas, Colorado, Louisiana, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming, contact the following: Regional Administrator, West Central Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1100 Commerce Street, Suite 5-D-22, Dallas, Texas 75242. Telephone: (214) 749-2877.

For programs in Alaska, Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, American Samoa, and the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands, contact the following: Regional Administrator, Western Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 550 Kearney Street, Room 400, San Francisco, California 94108. Telephone: (415) 556-4950.

HOUSING



Scroll design of beaded belt typical of Southeastern tribes. This is the only Indian beadwork pattern not affected by European design.

HOUSING EDUCATION PROGRAM

Extension Service

Assistance Available

Through grants made to land-grant institutions, State and county Extension Service personnel provide educational and technical assistance to families and communities in making and implementing decisions relative to increasing the quantity of housing and improving quality of structures, furnishings, and equipment.

How to Apply

State and county Extension Service programs are available to the general public. For information, contact the county Extension Service office, the State Extension Director at the State land-grant institution, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director of Information, Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-6283.

RENTAL AND COOPERATIVE HOUSING LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used to build, improve, repair, or buy rental or cooperatively owned housing that is economically designed and constructed for independent living. Loan funds may also be used to purchase land and to develop sites including related facilities such as water, sewer, streets, recreation centers, laundry rooms, and landscaping.

Interest rates are established periodically and can be obtained by contacting local FmHA offices. Borrowers who agree to rent to low-income tenants may receive credits to reduce the effective rate to as low as one percent. The maximum payment period is 40 years, except that loans providing housing for senior citizens may be repaid over a 50-year period.

On reservations, the applicant must own or become owner of the building site even though the land may be in a restricted status. Recipients of rental housing loans must sign Form FmHA 400-4, "Nondiscrimination Agreement," before loan closing.

How to Apply

The following are eligible to apply by contacting the county FmHA office or the nearest Agricultural Service Center: (1) Indian profit and non-profit corporations, consumer cooperatives, and other non-profit organizations with broadly based memberships (2) individuals, individual farmowners, or organizations operating on a profit basis, including those that agree to operate on a limited profit basis (3) cooperatives owned, occupied, and managed by eligible low-to-moderate-income families.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

RURAL HOUSING LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used to buy, build, repair or relocate homes and buy minimum adequate sites. Funds may also be used to provide adequate and safe water supply, sewage disposal facilities, and storm shelters, and to pay expenses of obtaining plans and loan closing costs. Loans may also be made to install plumbing, repair roofs, and remove health and safety hazards.

Interest rates are established periodically and can be obtained by contacting local FmHA offices. Interest credit may be granted on loans to low-income families to reduce the effective rate to as low as 1 percent. Co-signers may be used, and the repayment period may extend up to 33 years. On housing repair loans made under the incentive program, the interest rate varies with the adjusted income. Incentive repair loans may be repaid over a period up to 25 years. For minor repairs to remove health and safety hazards, loans up to \$3,500 may be advanced at 1 percent interest and repaid within 10 years.

Loans for regular housing purposes may be made only when the lease is for at least 50 years. In certain instances where small repair loans are involved, the lease may be for a shorter period but in any case, the length of the lease must be 1 1/2 times the repayment period of the loan.

How to Apply

The following are eligible to apply by contacting the county FmHA office or nearest Agricultural Service Center: (1) low and moderate-income Indian families who are without adequate housing and related facilities and who will become the owner-occupant of a home located on a site owned by the applicant or on which there is a long-term lease after the loan is closed (2) a farm owner without safe, decent, or sanitary housing for his or her own use or for the use of any tenant,

sharecropper, farm laborer, or farm manager. Housing must be located in rural areas, open country, towns, villages, and places without more than 10,000 population that are rural in character and not part of or associated with an urban area.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

RURAL HOUSING SITE DEVELOPMENT LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used to buy and develop building sites, including the construction of essential access roads, streets, and utilities and payment of fees and administrative expenses. The land is to be sold as adequate housing sites on a non-profit basis to families with low to moderate incomes, to cooperative housing groups, and to non-profit rural housing applicants.

Interest rates are established periodically and can be obtained by contacting local FmHA offices. Recipients of site development loans are required to sign Form FmHA 400-4, "Nondiscrimination Agreement," before loan closing. The loan must be repaid in two years.

How to Apply

Private non-profit organizations or public non-profit organizations—including a municipal corporation or other corporate agencies of a State or local government—are eligible to apply by contacting the county FmHA office. On reservations, the applicant must own or become owner of the building site even though the land may be in a restricted status.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

SELF-HELP TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Funds may be used to employ technical and supervisory personnel and to pay administrative expenses. Persons hired will be used to supervise and train low-income families while they are building their own homes. In addition, they will carry out administrative functions. The families will organize into groups and exchange labor on the construction of the homes.

Each agreement for funds will not exceed two years. Funds cannot be used to provide labor for construction or to buy land or material. Recipients are required to sign Form 400-4, "Nondiscrimination Agreement," before loan closing.

Each applicant will sign a technical assistance agreement. It will show the authorized use of funds, the requirements that must be met by the applicant, and other provisions necessary to meet the objectives of the program.

How to Apply

The following may apply by contacting the county FmHA office or the nearest Agricultural Service Center: (1) a State or political subdivision (2) a public non-profit corporation (3) a private non-profit corporation (4) groups organized by Indians.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

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Woven design from a Chippewa bag.